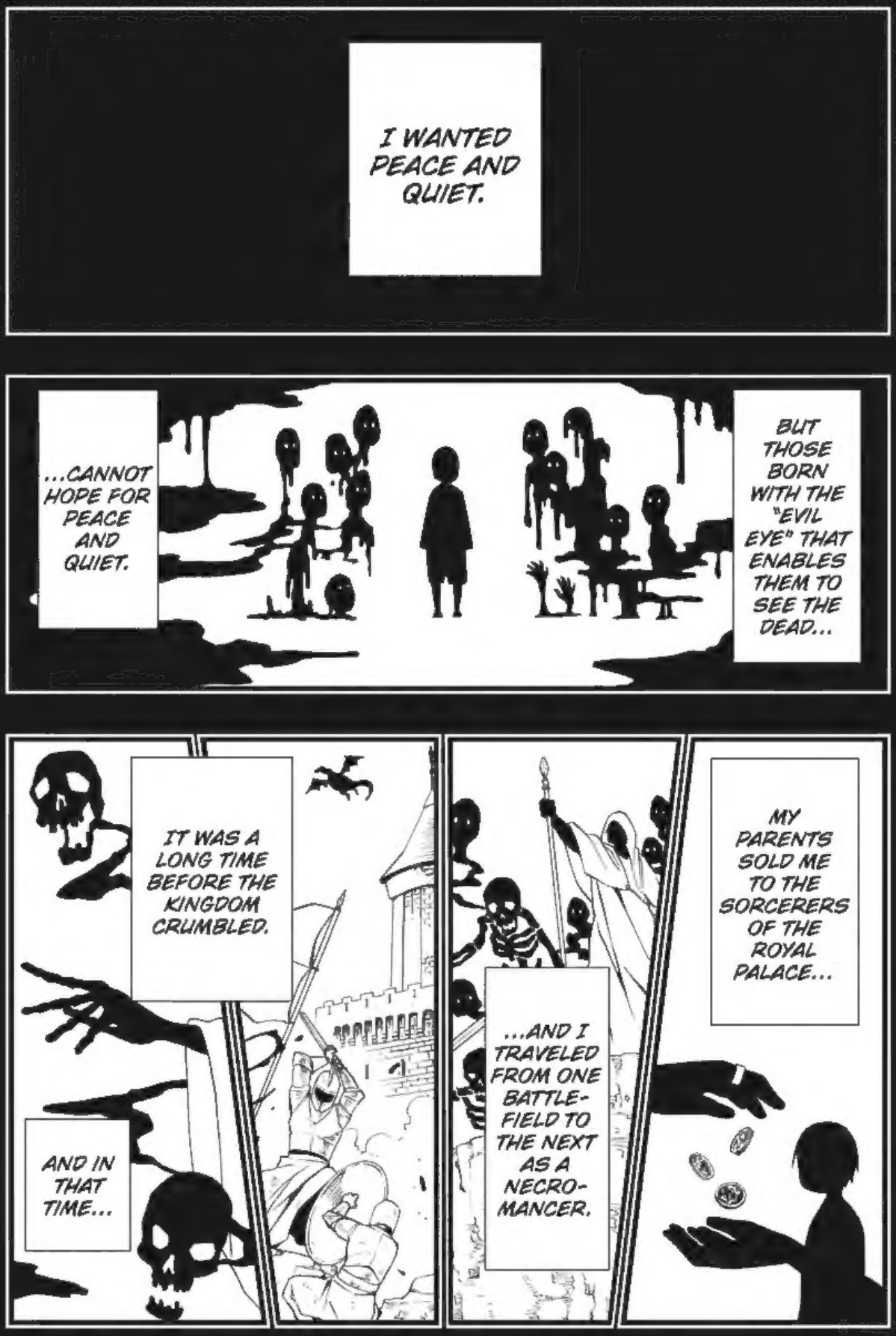
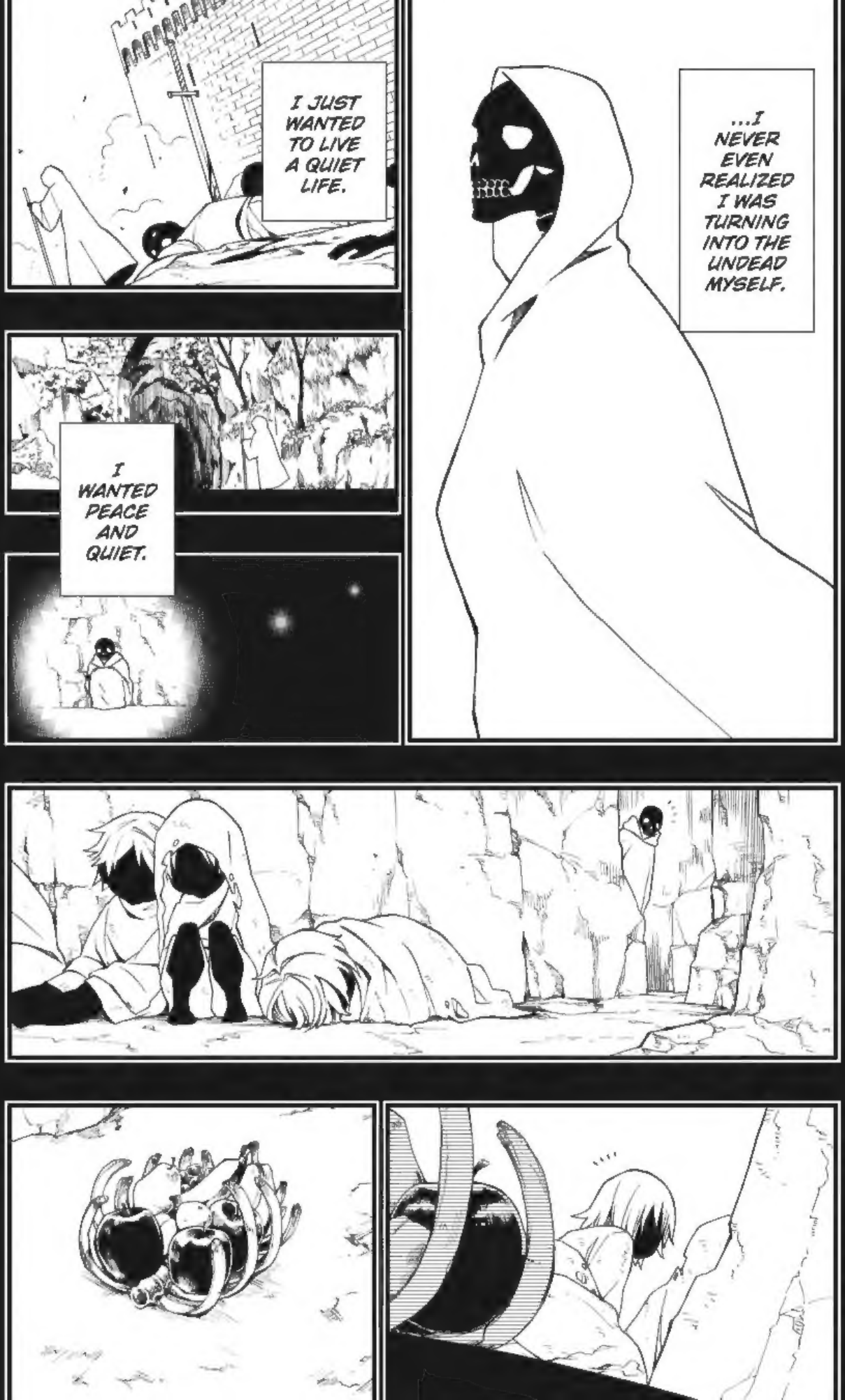
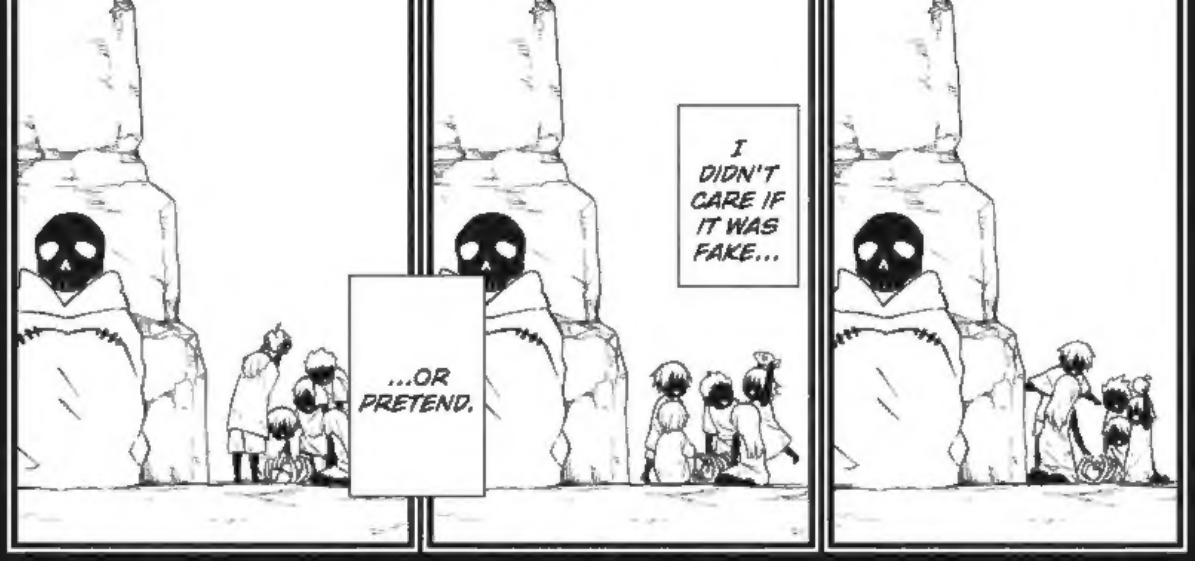
CHAPTER
2
DEAD MOUNT
DEATH PLAY
STORY: Ryohgo Narita
ART: Shinta Fujimoto

#02
DEAD MOUNT
DEATH PLAY

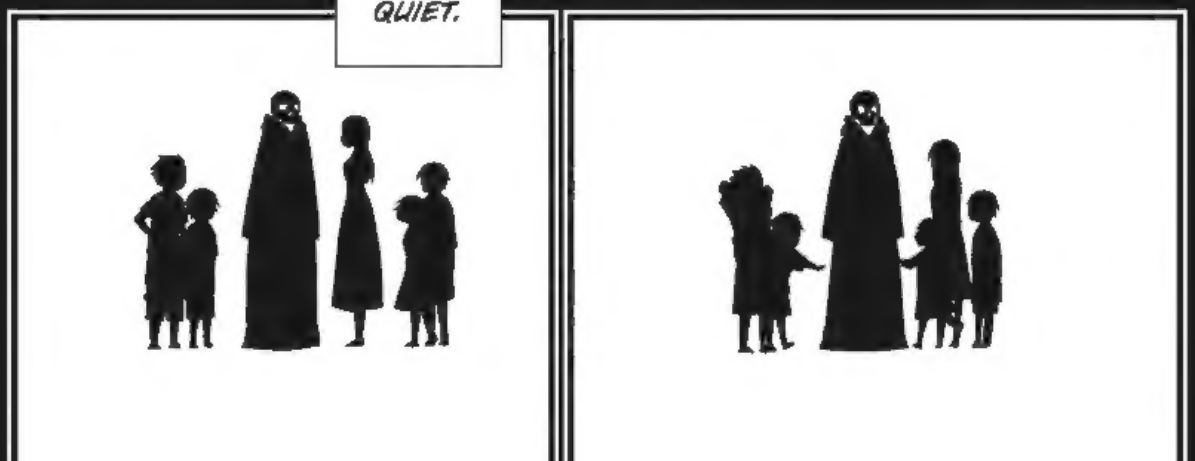

I WANTED PEACE AND QUIET.
...CANNOT HOPE FOR PEACE AND QUIET.
BUT THOSE BORN WITH THE "EVIL EYE" THAT ENABLES THEM TO SEE THE DEAD...
IT WAS A LONG TIME BEFORE THE KINGDOM CRUMBLED.
AND IN THAT TIME...
...AND I TRAVELED FROM ONE BATTLE-FIELD TO THE NEXT AS A NECRO-MANCER.
MY PARENTS SOLD ME TO THE SORCERERS OF THE ROYAL PALACE...


I JUST WANTED TO LIVE A QUIET LIFE.
...I NEVER EVEN REALIZED I WAS TURNING INTO THE UNDEAD MYSELF.
I WANTED PEACE AND QUIET.
....


...OR PRETEND.
I DIDN'T CARE IF IT WAS FAKE...

...OF A PEACEFUL AND QUIET LIFE.
I JUST WANTED FAINT MEMORIES ...

I WANTED PEACE AND QUIET.
PEACE AND QUIET.



THEY'VE BEEN CORRUPTED.

GRANT SALVATION TO THE THE CORRUPTED CHILDREN.
THE MORE I WANTED IT, THE FARTHER AWAY IT GOT.

WE'RE SORRY.
PLEASE GRANT US SALVA-TION.
SALVATION.
SALVATION!
WE BEG OF YOU! GRANT OUR PITIFUL SOULS SALVATION AND KILL US...!
I TOOK MY REVENGE THERE...
AAAH
AAAH
EEGH
...AND FOR A HUNDRED YEARS AFTER.

THEIR SCREAMS AND MY DARK MAGIC MUST HAVE ACTED LIKE A BEACON...
...BECAUSE BEFORE I KNEW IT, THE ABANDONED COAL MINE I FOUND MYSELF HOLED UP IN HAD BECOME A LABYRINTH OF WRITHING UNDEAD.
...FOR SOMEONE WHO COULD KILL ME TO ARRIVE...
...AS I WAS NO LONGER CAPABLE OF SUICIDE.
AND SO I WAITED DECADES... CENTURIES ...
EVEN SO, I STILL CRAVED PEACE AND QUIET.
...I SUCCEEDED IN THE SECRET ART OF REINCAR-NATION.
AND THEN...

THAT'S WHY...

...THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO DIE HERE, LEFT COMPLETELY IN THE DARK.

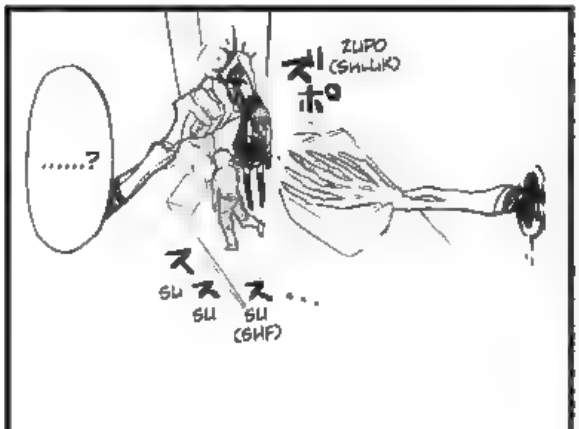
WELL, FIRST THING'S FIRST. I MUST ENSURE MY SAFETY.

I TARGETED THE CORPSE OF A FALLEN KINSMAN. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN REBORN AS HIM.

HOW MANY YEARS DID IT TAKE FOR THE REINCAR-NATION TO WORK?
ANYWAY, WHAT CONTI-NENT IS THIS?
キョロ
KYORO
(LOOK)
キョロ
KYORO

すっ
SU (SSK)
I HAVE TO EXTRACT SOME INFORMATION FROM THIS ASSASSIN...
SHE'S PRETTY SKILLED. I'LL HAVE TO OVERPOWER HER AND TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION...

...PRETTY LITTLE ASSASSIN!
NOW... LET'S PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF...
ZUA (ZWOOSH)


.....?
ZUPO (SHLLIK)
ズポ
ス SU
ス SU
ス SU (SHF)
...

.....

GATA
GATA
GATA (TREMBL)
SH... SHE'S DEAD!?

DOESN'T SHE HAVE ANY RESTOR-ATIVE ELIXIRS ON HER!?
OR-A MAGIC ITEM THAT AUTOMATICALLY HEALS HER!?
BUN
BUN
BUN (SWING)
BASA
BASA (FLAP)
I ONLY STABBED HER THROUGH THE BELLY ONCE!?
BUT THAT WAS TOO EASY!

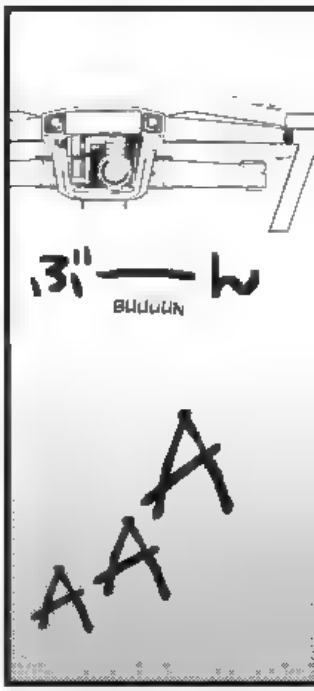
IF SHE'S DEAD, I WON'T BE ABLE TO PROVE I WAS DEFENDING MYSELF AGAINST AN ASSASSIN.
URO
THIS IS BAD ...
URO (PACE)
SOWA
SOWA (PANIC)

GOGOGO (RUMBLE)
THE ASSASSIN SQUADS IN MY (LONG GONE) COUNTRY COULD TAKE TWENTY ROUNDS...

SILENT
(AS THE GRAVE)
...I SAID "NOW...LET'S PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF" TO A DEAD BODY...

IF THE GUARDS COME AFTER ME FOR THIS, I CAN KISS MY PEACEFUL LIFE GOOD-BYE!
AND WHAT'S WORSE ...

MY HEAD..... HAVE I COMPLETELY LOST MY MIND...?


BUUUUN

KACH!
カチ

ポロロン♪
PORORON
(RING-A-LING)

OH. CLARISSA.
NOT JUST TROUBLE. A COMPLETE SYSTEM CRASH.
Hello?
This is taking a little longer than usual. You run into some kind of trouble?
Clarissa
Incoming Call
WATCH IT AND TELL ME.
KATA (TAP)
KATA KATA
I'll send you the video data now.
VIDEO?
GAGA (PZZT)
AM I LOSING MY MIND...
...OR IS THIS GUY IN SHINJUKU ...?
ZAAAA (FSSSHH)

MISAKI.
MISAKI.
IT'S GOOD TO SMILE.
I JUST KNOW YOUR SMILE WILL BRING PEOPLE HAPPINESS...
MISAKI, YOU'RE SO ADORABLE.
AND ALWAYS SMILING.
...AND I HOPE YOU FIND HAPPINESS WITH THEM.
MI...
...ZA... KI...

HA HA HA.
HA HA!
ZAKU (STAB)
ZAKU
ZAKU
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

REMEMBER ME?
HEY, THERE!

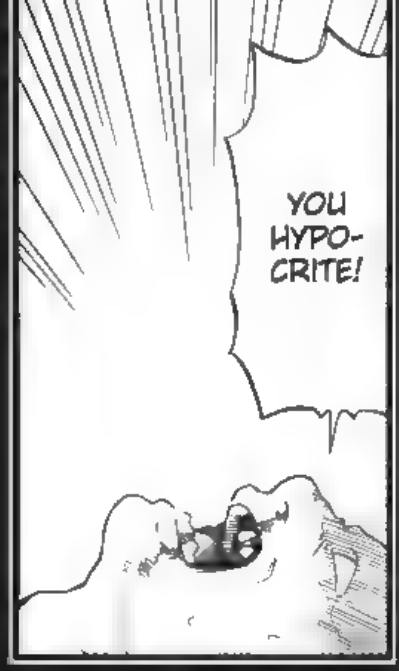
GASHON (SHUNK)
MMM. THAT'S RIGHT, BUT YOU'RE A LITTLE OFF!

YOU'RE THE ASSASSIN ZAKI!!
IT...IT'S YOU! ZAKI...!

THIS IS ACTUALLY AT CLARISSA'S REQUEST...

DON'T THINK YOU'LL GET AWAY WITH THIS JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE ONE OF CLARISSA'S FAVORITES ...
GOD DAMN IT!

FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, YOU SEEM TO REALLY ENJOY KILLING.
...SO I HAVE TO GET RID OF YOU!
SHE SAID YOU'VE BEEN KILLING TOO MANY INNOCENTS LATELY...
HOW ABOUT NOW?
TON (TAP)
トーン
トーン
TON
ARE YOU HAPPY BEING KILLED BY ME?
YOU'RE ...
...AS HAPPY AS YOU DID BACK THEN?
DO I LOOK ...



PICKING OUT ASSASSINS AND GANGSTERS TO KILL...
...SO YOU CAN THINK OF YOURSELF AS AN "ALLY OF JUSTICE"!
IS THIS YOUR IDEA OF REVENGE !?

SFX: GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO GASHO...

ARE YOU A GOOD PERSON ..?
GASHA (CLATTER)
DO YOU THINK I KILL "GOOD PEOPLE"?
BUT... EVEN SO...
...THERE IS SOMETHING I'M STILL NOT SURE OF YET.
TH...
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M... RRBGH!
GUSHA (SLORSH)
.....AS IF.

WHY WOULD CLARISSA-SAN WORK WITH A GIRL LIKE THAT...?
THEY SAY SHE'S A CRAZY BITCH WHO ALWAYS KILLS WITH A SMILE ON HER FACE.
THAT'S HER. THE ASSASSIN ZAKI.

YEAH. THAT'S FINE.
Name
Polka Shinovama
Legal Res.
Address
Tokyo
Family
THIS ISN'T AN ASSASSIN... HE'S JUST A KID, SEE?
HUH? YOU WANT TO TAKE THIS JOB?

...JUST HOW FUCKED UP I CAN REALLY BE.
...I'VE ALREADY ACHIEVED MY LIFE'S GOAL.
AND I WANT TO SEE...

KEE HEE HEE!
..... GUESS I HAD NO PROBLEM KILLING HIM.
I CAN KILL...
TAN (LEAP)
...THE WICKED AND THE GOOD JUST THE SAME.
NOBODY WILL EVER BE HAPPY.
HMM.
TA (TMP)
WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, SOMEONE LIKE ME REALLY SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO LIVE.

THE ONLY THING LEFT I HAVEN'T TESTED OUT...
...IS WHETHER I CAN KILL MYSELF.
...NOT ME... NONE OF US WILL EVER REALLY BE HAPPY, WILL WE?
NEITHER THE WICKED NOR THE GOOD.
NOT CLARISSA OR KUROPON.
OR HAGANE-CHAN...
TON (STEP)

GASHA
HELLO?
カバ
GASHA (CLASH)
.....?
It's me. Kuruya.
WHAT'S UP, KURUPON?
MY LIFE WAS JUST REACHING ITS CLIMAX.
ぶーん
BUUUUN (BUZZZZ)
I know. I saw.
OH THERE HE IS.
That kid whose throat you slit earlier is walking around like nothing happened.
You can die if you want to, but only once you've finished your job.
HUH?

That's right.
Your job's not over yet.
HUH!? HOW CAN THAT BE? WHAT'S GOING ON!?
YOU MEAN I WASN'T ABLE TO KILL HIM!?
HUH? WHAT IS THIS.....?
I FEEL LIKE I HAD A CONVERSATION WITH KURUPON ABOUT THE SAME THING BEFORE.
OH GOOD. YOU'RE AWAKE...
OH YEAH ...
THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL... YOUR LIFE FLASHING BEFORE YOUR EYES.

AH!
...?
?
TON (TAP)
トン
SUC-CESS.
ばらボロン
BA (WHIP)
BORON (JIGGLE)
BIKU (JUMP)
BUSHU (SPURT)
UUH, I... DIED, DIDN'T I? HOW COME I'M ALIVE AGAIN?
LISTEN... YOU DIDN'T COME BACK TO LIFE SO MUCH AS...
...GET REBORN BY MAGIC.
SHHHN (SILENT)
HUH!? HOW CAN THIS BE!?
I WAS SKEWERED THROUGH THE STOMACH, WASN'T I!?
SA (FFT)
PUSHU (FZZT)

AND ANOTHER THING...

...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE EXACTLY?
GACHA CK-CLICK
チャ

AH.

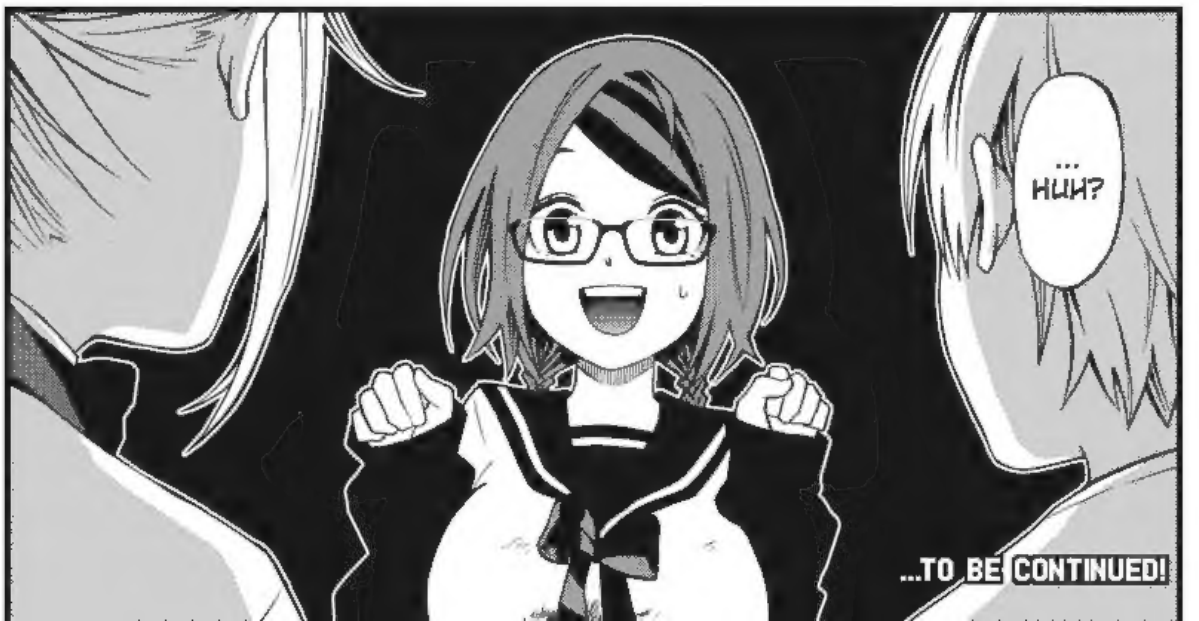
KA (CLICK)
カ
KA

CLARISSA!?
GUI (YANK)
WHAT'S CLARISSA THE INTERMEDIARY DOING HERE...?
WAIT, DWHAT!?
POSU (POOMF)
HAO
TO

YEP. SHE'S COLD...
HOH...
KYU (SQUEEZE)
AND I'M NOT FINDING A PULSE.
HUH?

YOU'RE COMPLETELY DEAD.
IT'S OKAY.
GU (THWIP)

AH!
IN THIS LANGUAGE, YOU'D CALL IT... UH.....
THAT'S IT! YOU'RE A... ZOMBIE?


...HUH?
...TO BE CONTINUED!

DEAD MOUNT DEATH PLAY

CHAPTER 2

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